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General and complete disarmament: implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden and Switzerland: draft resolution

Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 63/71 of 2 December 2008 on the Convention on Cluster Munitions and 70/54 of 7 December 2015, 71/45 of 5 December 2016 and 72/54 of 4 December 2017 on the implementation of the Convention,

Reaffirming its determination to put an end for all time to the suffering and casualties caused by cluster munitions at the time of their use, when they fail to function as intended or when they are abandoned,

Deploring the recent cases of cluster munitions use and related civilian casualties, and calling upon those who continue to use cluster munitions to cease any such activity immediately,

Conscious that cluster munition remnants kill or maim civilians, including women and children, obstruct economic and social development, including through the loss of livelihood, impede post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction, delay or prevent the return of refugees and internally displaced persons, can have a negative impact on national and international peacebuilding and humanitarian assistance efforts, and have other severe consequences for many years after use,

Concerned about the dangers presented by the large national stockpiles of cluster munitions retained for operational use, and determined to ensure their rapid destruction,

Recognizing the impact of cluster munitions on women, men, girls and boys and the importance of relevant States providing adequate, gender- and age-sensitive assistance to victims of cluster munitions,

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Believing it necessary to contribute effectively in an efficient, coordinated manner to resolving the challenge of removing cluster munition remnants located throughout the world, and to ensure their destruction,

Mindful of the need to coordinate adequately efforts undertaken in various forums, including through the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[1] to address the rights and needs of victims of various types of weapons, and resolved to avoid discrimination among victims of various types of weapons,

Reaffirming that in cases not covered by the Convention on Cluster Munitions[2] or by other international agreements, civilians and combatants remain under the protection and authority of the principles of international law, derived from established custom, from the principles of humanity and from the dictates of public conscience,

Welcoming the steps taken nationally, regionally and globally in recent years aimed at prohibiting, restricting or suspending the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of cluster munitions, and welcoming in this regard that, since 2014, all Central American States have joined the Convention, thus fulfilling their aspiration to become the first cluster munitions-free region in the world,

Stressing the role of public conscience in furthering the principles of humanity, as evidenced by the global call for an end to civilian suffering caused by cluster munitions, and recognizing the efforts to that end undertaken by the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Cluster Munition Coalition and numerous other non-governmental organizations around the world,

Noting that a total of 120 States have joined the Convention, 104 as States parties and 16 as signatories,

Recalling that 2018 marks the tenth anniversary of the Convention, and emphasizing the need to make further efforts in accelerating the universalization process,

Taking note of the initiative of the Secretary-General's initiative *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, in particular the section entitled "Disarmament that saves lives",

Taking note also of the 2015 Dubrovnik Declaration[3] and the Dubrovnik Action Plan[4] adopted at the First Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, held in Dubrovnik, Croatia, from 7 to 11 September 2015,

Taking note further of the political declaration establishing 2030 as a target date to implement all individual and collective outstanding obligations under the Convention as adopted by consensus under the presidency of the Netherlands at the Sixth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, held in Geneva from 5 to 7 September 2016,

Welcoming the dialogue undertaken by the German presidency of the Seventh Meeting of States Parties with States not parties to the Convention, including the military-to-military dialogue, in support of universal adherence to the Convention, and recognizing the assistance that the country coalition concept can provide to affected countries in the implementation of their obligations under the Convention,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[2] Ibid., vol. 2688, No. 47713.

[3] CCM/CONF/2015/7 and CCM/CONF/2015/7/Corr.1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex III.

Recognizing the importance of full involvement and equal opportunities for the meaningful participation of women and men in disarmament processes, policy and programming decisions related to the Convention,

1. *Urges* all States outside the Convention on Cluster Munitions[2] to join as soon as possible, whether by ratifying or acceding to it, and all States parties that are in a position to do so to promote adherence to the Convention through bilateral, subregional and multilateral contacts, outreach and other means;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention, including through the implementation of the Dubrovnik Action Plan;[4]

3. *Expresses strong concern* regarding the number of allegations, reports or documented evidence of the use of cluster munitions in different parts of the world, related civilian casualties and other consequences that impede the achievement of sustainable development;

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information that could make the clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants and related activities more effective;

6. *Reiterates* the invitation to States not parties to participate in a continued dialogue on issues relevant to the Convention in order to enhance its humanitarian impact and to promote its universalization, as well as to engage in a military-to-military dialogue in order to address specific security issues related to cluster munitions;

7. *Reiterates its invitation and encouragement* to all States parties, interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Cluster Munition Coalition and other relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in the future meetings of States parties to the Convention;

8. *Calls upon* States parties and participating States to address issues arising from outstanding dues, including options to ensure sustainable financing for the meetings and prompt payment of respective shares of the estimated costs;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", a sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions".